

REMARKS

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24 and 26-34 are pending in the application.

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claim 26 is cancelled.

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24 and 27-34 remain in the case for consideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24 and 27-34 are deemed by the Examiner to be allowable.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,304,073 to Saito ("Saito").


Claim 26 is hereby cancelled, thus obviating the rejection.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, allowance of claims 3, 4, 6-8, 11-18, 20-24 and 27-34 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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